



# Positive solutions for three-point boundary value problems for second-order impulsive differential equations on infinite intervals<sup>☆</sup>

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## ABSTRACT

This paper discusses the existence of positive solutions for three-point boundary value problems for second-order nonlinear impulsive differential equations on an infinite interval. By using the diagonalization process, fixed point theory and inequality techniques, sufficient conditions for guaranteeing the existence of positive solutions are obtained.

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## 1. Introduction

The theory of impulsive differential equations has been emerging as an important area of investigation in recent years. For some general and recent works on the theory of impulsive differential equations we refer the reader to [1–3]. Applications of impulsive differential equations occur in biology, medicine, mechanics, engineering, etc. [4–12]. But the corresponding theory for impulsive boundary value problems on an infinite interval has yet to be fully developed; we have only seen [13–15].

In this paper, we shall use the diagonalization process and the Leray–Schauder fixed point theory to investigate the existence of positive solutions for the following boundary value problem:

$$\begin{aligned} x''(t) + \phi(t)f(t, x(t), x'(t)), \quad t \neq t_k, \\ \Delta x'(t_k) = b_k x'(t_k), \quad \Delta x(t_k) = a_k x(t_k), \quad k = 1, 2, \dots \\ x(0) = \alpha x(\eta), \quad x'(+\infty) = 0, \end{aligned} \quad (1.1)$$

where  $0 = t_0 < t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_k < \dots$ ,  $\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} t_k = +\infty$ ,  $\Delta x'(t_k) = x'(t_k^+) - x'(t_k^-)$ ,  $\Delta x(t_k) = x(t_k^+) - x(t_k^-)$ ,  $0 < \alpha < 1$ ,  $\eta > 0$ ,  $x'(+\infty) = \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} x'(t)$ .

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Let  $J = [0, a]$ , where  $a$  is a constant or  $a = +\infty$ ; we introduce the following spaces of functions:

$PC(J) = \{u : J \rightarrow R, u \text{ is continuous at } t \neq t_k, u(t_k^+), u(t_k^-) \text{ exist, and } u(t_k^-) = u(t_k)\}$ .

$PC^1(J) = \{u \in PC(J) : u \text{ is continuously differentiable at } t \neq t_k, u'(0^+), u'(t_k^+), u'(t_k^-) \text{ exist and } u'(t_k^-) = u'(t_k)\}$ .

$PC^2(J) = \{u \in PC^1(J) : u \text{ is twice continuously differentiable at } t \neq t_k\}$ .

Note that  $PC(J)$  and  $PC^1(J)$  are Banach spaces with the norms

$$\|u\|_\infty = \sup\{|u(t)| : t \in J\}, \quad \text{and} \quad \|u\|_1 = \max\{\|u\|_\infty, \|u'\|_\infty\}$$

respectively.

## 2. Preliminaries

**Definition 2.1.** The set  $\mathcal{F}$  is said to be quasiequicontinuous in  $[0, c]$  if for any  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists a  $\delta > 0$  such that if  $x \in \mathcal{F}$ ,  $k \in Z$ ,  $t^*, t^{**} \in (t_{k-1}, t_k] \cap [0, c]$  and  $|t^* - t^{**}| < \delta$ , then  $|x(t^*) - x(t^{**})| < \varepsilon$ .

**Lemma 2.1** ([2], Compactness Criterion). The set  $\mathcal{F} \subset PC([0, c], R^n)$  ( $c < +\infty$ ) is relatively compact if and only if

1.  $\mathcal{F}$  is bounded;
2.  $\mathcal{F}$  is quasiequicontinuous in  $[0, c]$ .

**Lemma 2.2** ([16], Nonlinear Alternative of Leray–Schauder Type). Let  $E$  be a Banach space and  $V \subseteq E$  a convex set. Assume  $\Omega$  is a relatively open subset of  $V$  with  $p^* \in \Omega$  and  $S : \Omega \rightarrow V$  a continuous, compact map. Then either

- (i)  $S$  has a fixed point or
- (ii) there exists  $u \in \partial\Omega$  and  $\lambda \in (0, 1)$  with  $u = \lambda Su + (1 - \lambda)p^*$ .

Consider the boundary value problems on finite intervals for the problem

$$\begin{cases} x'' + \phi(t)F(t, x, x') = 0, & 0 < t < n, t \neq t_k, \\ \Delta x'(t_k) = b_k x'(t_k), & \Delta x(t_k) = a_k x(t_k), & k = 1, 2, \dots \\ x(0) = \alpha x(\eta), & x'(n) = b, \end{cases} \quad (2.1)$$

where  $n > \eta$  is a any real number.

**Lemma 2.3.** Suppose  $\phi \in C(0, n)$  with  $\phi > 0$  on  $(0, n)$  and  $\phi \in L^1[0, n]$  and  $F : [0, n] \times R \times R \rightarrow R$  is continuous. Further suppose there is a constant  $M > \left(\frac{\alpha\eta}{1-\alpha} + n\right)b$ , independent of  $\lambda$ , with  $\|x\|_1 = \max\{\|x\|, \|x'\|\} \neq M$ , where  $\|y\| = \sup_{0 \leq t \leq n} |y(t)|$  if  $y = x$  or  $x'$ , for any solution  $x \in PC^1[0, n] \cap PC^2(0, n)$  to

$$\begin{cases} x'' + \lambda\phi(t)F(t, x, x') = 0, & 0 < t < n, t \neq t_k, \\ \Delta x'(t_k) = \lambda b_k x'(t_k), & \Delta x(t_k) = \lambda a_k x(t_k), & k = 1, 2, \dots, \\ x(0) = \alpha x(\eta), & x'(n) = b \end{cases} \quad (2.1^\lambda)$$

for each  $\lambda \in (0, 1)$ . Then (2.1) has a solution  $x \in PC^1[0, n] \cap PC^2(0, n)$  with  $\|x\|_1 \leq M$ .

**Proof.** (2.1) has a solution if and only if the operator  $S$ :

$$\begin{aligned} Sx(t) = & \left[ \frac{\alpha\eta}{1-\alpha} + t \right] b + \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha} \int_0^\eta \int_s^n \phi(\tau) f(\tau, x, x') d\tau ds - \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha} \sum_{0 < t_k < n} b_k x'(t_k) \eta \\ & + \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha} \left[ \sum_{0 < t_k \leq \eta} b_k x'(t_k) (\eta - t_k) + \sum_{0 < t_k < \eta} a_k x(t_k) \right] + \int_0^t \int_s^n \phi(\tau) f(\tau, x, x') d\tau ds \\ & - \sum_{0 < t_k < n} b_k x'(t_k) t + \sum_{0 < t_k \leq t} b_k x'(t_k) (t - t_k) + \sum_{0 < t_k < t} a_k x(t_k) \end{aligned}$$

has a fixed point. It is easily shown that  $S$  is continuous and compact. Let  $w(t) = \left(\frac{\alpha\eta}{1-\alpha} + t\right)b$ . Then (2.1<sup>λ</sup>) has a solution  $x$  if and only if  $x = (1 - \lambda)w + \lambda Sx$ . Let  $\Omega = \{u \in PC^1[0, n] : \|u\|_1 < M\}$ ,  $V = E = PC^1[0, n]$ . For  $x \in \partial\Omega$ ,  $x \neq (1 - \lambda)w + \lambda Sx$ . Lemma 2.2 guarantees that (2.1) has a solution  $x$  with  $\|x\|_1 \leq M$ . This proof is complete.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.4.** If  $x$  satisfies (2.1<sup>λ</sup>), then

$$x'(t) = \prod_{t < t_k < n} (1 + \lambda b_k)^{-1} x'(n) + \lambda \int_t^n \prod_{t < t_k \leq s} (1 + \lambda b_k)^{-1} \phi(s) F(s, x(s), x'(s)) ds. \quad (2.2)$$

**Proof.** We assume, without loss of generality, that  $t \in (0, t_1)$ ,  $n \in (t_2, t_3]$ . From (2.1<sup>λ</sup>), we have

$$x'(n) - x'(t_2^+) = -\lambda \int_{t_2}^n \phi(s)F(s, x(s), x'(s))ds,$$

$$x'(t_2) - x'(t_1^+) = -\lambda \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \phi(s)F(s, x(s), x'(s))ds,$$

$$x'(t_1) - x'(t) = -\lambda \int_t^{t_1} \phi(s)F(s, x(s), x'(s))ds.$$

From  $x'(t_k) = (1 + \lambda b_k)^{-1}x'(t_k^+)$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} x'(t) &= x'(t_1) + \lambda \int_t^{t_1} \phi(s)F(s, x(s), x'(s))ds \\ &= (1 + \lambda b_1)^{-1}x'(t_1^+) + \lambda \int_t^{t_1} \phi(s)F(s, x(s), x'(s))ds \\ &= (1 + \lambda b_1)^{-1} \left[ x'(t_2) + \lambda \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \phi(s)F(s, x(s), x'(s))ds \right] + \lambda \int_t^{t_1} \phi(s)F(s, x(s), x'(s))ds \\ &= (1 + \lambda b_1)^{-1} (1 + \lambda b_2)^{-1} x'(t_2^+) + \lambda \int_{t_1}^{t_2} (1 + \lambda b_1)^{-1} \phi(s)F(s, x(s), x'(s))ds + \lambda \int_t^{t_1} \phi(s)F(s, x(s), x'(s))ds \\ &= (1 + \lambda b_1)^{-1} (1 + \lambda b_2)^{-1} x'(n) + \lambda \int_{t_2}^n (1 + \lambda b_1)^{-1} (1 + \lambda b_2)^{-1} \phi(s)F(s, x(s), x'(s))ds \\ &\quad + \lambda \int_{t_1}^{t_2} (1 + \lambda b_1)^{-1} \phi(s)F(s, x(s), x'(s))ds + \lambda \int_t^{t_1} \phi(s)F(s, x(s), x'(s))ds \\ &= \prod_{t < t_k < n} (1 + \lambda b_k)^{-1} x'(n) + \lambda \int_t^n \prod_{t < t_k \leq s} (1 + \lambda b_k)^{-1} \phi(s)F(s, x(s), x'(s))ds, \end{aligned}$$

which completes the proof.  $\square$

### 3. Main results

**Theorem 3.1.** Suppose the following hold.

- (H<sub>1</sub>)  $\phi \in C(0, +\infty)$  with  $\phi > 0$  on  $(0, +\infty)$  and  $Q_\infty = \int_0^{+\infty} \prod_{0 < t_k < s} (1 + b_k^-)^{-1} \phi(s)ds < +\infty$ ,  $R_\infty = \int_0^{+\infty} s\phi(s)ds < +\infty$ .  
 $a_k > -1$ ,  $b_k > -1$ , and  $\prod_{k=1}^\infty (1 + a_k^+) = A < \frac{1}{\alpha}$ ,  $\prod_{k=1}^\infty (1 + b_k^+) = B_1 < +\infty$ ,  $\prod_{k=1}^\infty (1 + b_k^-)^{-1} = B < +\infty$ , where  $s^+ = \max\{s, 0\}$ ,  $s^- = \min\{s, 0\}$ ,  $s = a_k$  or  $b_k$ .  
(H<sub>2</sub>)  $f : [0, +\infty) \times [0, +\infty) \times (0, +\infty) \rightarrow (0, +\infty)$  is continuous with  $f(t, x, v) > 0$  for  $(t, x, v) \in [0, +\infty) \times (0, +\infty) \times (0, +\infty)$ .  
(H<sub>3</sub>)  $f(t, x, v) \leq \omega(\max\{x, v\})$  on  $[0, +\infty) \times (0, +\infty) \times (0, +\infty)$  with  $\omega \geq 0$  continuous and nondecreasing on  $[0, +\infty)$ .  
(H<sub>4</sub>)

$$\sup_{c \in (0, +\infty)} \frac{c}{\omega(c) \max \left\{ Q_\infty, \frac{\alpha A^2 B}{1 - \alpha A} \int_0^\eta s\phi(s)ds + ABR_\infty \right\}} > 1.$$

- (H<sub>5</sub>) For a constant  $H > 0$  there exists a function  $\psi_H$  continuous on  $[0, +\infty)$  and positive on  $(0, +\infty)$  and a constant  $\gamma$ ,  $0 \leq \gamma < 1$  with  $f(t, x, v) \geq \psi_H(t)v^\gamma$  on  $[0, +\infty) \times [0, H]^2$ .

Then the problem (1.1) has solutions  $x \in PC^1[0, +\infty) \cap PC^2(0, +\infty)$  with  $x > 0$  on  $(0, +\infty)$ .

**Proof.** First fix  $n \in N_\eta = \{[\eta] + 1, [\eta] + 2, \dots\}$ , where  $[\cdot]$  is an integral function, and consider the family problems

$$\begin{aligned} x'' + \phi(t)f(t, x, x') &= 0, \quad 0 < t < n, \quad t \neq t_k, \\ \Delta x'(t_k) &= b_k x'(t_k), \quad \Delta x(t_k) = a_k x(t_k), \\ x(0) &= \alpha x(\eta), \quad x'(n) = 0. \end{aligned} \tag{3.1}$$

Choose  $M > 0$  with

$$\frac{M}{\omega(M) \max \left\{ Q_\infty, \frac{\alpha A^2 B}{1 - \alpha A} \int_0^\eta s\phi(s)ds + ABR_\infty \right\}} > 1.$$

Next choose  $\varepsilon > 0$  with  $\varepsilon < M$ , and

$$\frac{M}{\omega(M) \max \left\{ Q_\infty, \frac{\alpha A^2 B}{1-\alpha A} \int_0^\eta s \phi(s) ds + ABR_\infty \right\} + \varepsilon} > 1. \quad (3.2)$$

Let  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$  be chosen such that  $\frac{1}{n_0} \left( \frac{\alpha \eta A^2 B}{1-\alpha A} + nAB \right) < \varepsilon$ ; we first show that

$$\begin{aligned} x'' + \phi(t)f^*(t, x, x') &= 0, \quad 0 < t < n, \quad t \neq t_k, \\ \Delta x'(t_k) &= b_k x'(t_k), \quad \Delta x(t_k) = a_k x(t_k), \quad k = 1, 2, \dots \\ x(0) &= \alpha x(\eta), \quad x'(n) = \frac{1}{m} \end{aligned} \quad (3.3^m)$$

has a solution for each  $m \in \{n_0, n_0 + 1, \dots\}$ , where

$$f^*(t, x, v) = \begin{cases} f(t, x, v), & x \geq 0, v \geq \frac{B_1}{m}, \\ f\left(t, x, \frac{B_1}{m}\right), & x \geq 0, v \leq \frac{B_1}{m} \\ f(t, 0, v), & x < 0, v \geq \frac{B_1}{m} \\ f\left(t, 0, \frac{B_1}{m}\right), & x < 0, v \leq \frac{B_1}{m}. \end{cases}$$

To show that (3.3<sup>m</sup>) has a solution, we consider the family of problems

$$\begin{aligned} x'' + \lambda \phi(t)f^*(t, x, x') &= 0, \quad 0 < t < n, \quad t \neq t_k, \\ \Delta x'(t_k) &= \lambda b_k x'(t_k), \quad \Delta x(t_k) = \lambda a_k x(t_k), \quad k = 1, 2, \dots \\ x(0) &= \alpha x(\eta), \quad x'(n) = \frac{1}{m} \end{aligned} \quad (3.4_\lambda^m)$$

for  $0 < \lambda < 1$ . Let  $x \in PC^1[0, n] \cap PC^2(0, n)$  be any solution of (3.4<sub>λ</sub><sup>m</sup>). It follows from (H<sub>2</sub>) and Lemma 2.4 that

$$\begin{aligned} x'(t) &= \prod_{t < t_k < n} (1 + \lambda b_k)^{-1} x'(n) + \lambda \int_t^n \prod_{t < t_k \leq s} (1 + \lambda b_k)^{-1} \phi(s) f^*(s, x(s), x'(s)) ds \\ &\leq \prod_{t < t_k < n} (1 + b_k^-)^{-1} x'(n) + \int_t^n \prod_{t < t_k \leq s} (1 + b_k^-)^{-1} \phi(s) f^*(s, x(s), x'(s)) ds \\ &\leq \frac{B}{m} + \omega(\|x\|_1) \int_t^n \prod_{t < t_k \leq s} (1 + b_k^-)^{-1} \phi(s) ds. \end{aligned} \quad (3.5)$$

From  $\frac{1}{n_0} \left( \frac{\alpha A^2 B}{1-\alpha A} + nAB \right) < \varepsilon$ ,  $A \geq 1$  and  $m \in \{n_0, n_0 + 1, \dots\}$ , we have  $\frac{B}{m} < \varepsilon$ . Hence

$$x'(t) \leq \varepsilon + \omega(\|x\|_1) \int_t^n \prod_{t < t_k \leq s} (1 + b_k)^{-1} \phi(s) ds \leq \varepsilon + \omega(\|x\|_1) Q_\infty. \quad (3.6)$$

From (2.2) of Lemma 2.4, we have  $x'(t) \geq \frac{B_1}{m}$ , so

$$x(t) \geq \prod_{0 < t_k < t} (1 + a_k) x(0) + \int_0^t \prod_{0 < t_k < s} (1 + a_k) \frac{B_1}{m} ds.$$

This and  $x(0) = \alpha x(\eta)$  yield

$$x(0) \geq \frac{\alpha B_1}{m \left( 1 - \alpha \prod_{0 < t_k < \eta} (1 + a_k) \right)} \int_0^\eta \prod_{0 < t_k < s} (1 + a_k) ds > 0,$$

and thus  $x(t) > 0$ . From (3.5) and  $x(t_k^+) = (1 + a_k)x(t_k)$  we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) &\leq x(0) \prod_{0 < t_k < t} (1 + a_k) + \int_0^t \prod_{0 < t_k < s} (1 + a_k) \left[ \frac{B}{m} + \omega(\|x\|_1) \int_s^n \prod_{s < t_k \leq \tau} (1 + b_k^-)^{-1} \phi(\tau) d\tau \right] ds \\ &\leq Ax(0) + \frac{AB}{m}t + AB\omega(\|x\|_1) \int_0^t s\phi(s)ds, \quad t \in [0, n]. \end{aligned}$$

This together with  $x(0) = \alpha x(\eta)$  yields

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) &\leq \frac{\alpha A}{1 - \alpha A} \left[ \frac{AB\eta}{m} + AB\omega(\|x\|_1) \int_0^\eta s\phi(s)ds \right] + \frac{AB}{m}t + AB\omega(\|x\|_1) \int_0^t s\phi(s)ds \\ &\leq \frac{\alpha\eta}{1 - \alpha A} \frac{A^2B}{m} + \frac{n}{m}AB + \omega(\|x\|_1) \left[ \frac{\alpha A^2B}{1 - \alpha A} \int_0^\eta s\phi(s)ds + AB \int_0^{+\infty} s\phi(s)ds \right]. \end{aligned}$$

From  $\frac{1}{n_0} \left( \frac{\alpha A^2B}{1 - \alpha A} + nAB \right) < \varepsilon$  and  $m \in \{n_0, n_0 + 1, \dots\}$ , we have

$$x(t) \leq \varepsilon + \omega(\|x\|_1) \left[ \frac{\alpha A^2B}{1 - \alpha A} \int_0^\eta s\phi(s)ds + ABR_\infty \right]. \quad (3.7)$$

We combine (3.6) and (3.7) and find

$$\frac{\|x\|_1}{\omega(\|x\|_1) \max \left\{ Q_\infty, \frac{\alpha A^2B}{1 - \alpha A} \int_0^\eta s\phi(s)ds + ABR_\infty \right\} + \varepsilon} \leq 1. \quad (3.8)$$

Now (3.2) together with (3.8) implies  $\|x\|_1 \neq M$ . Thus Lemma 2.3 implies that (3.3<sup>m</sup>) has a solution  $x_{m,n}$  with  $\|x_{m,n}\|_1 \leq M$ . In fact

$$0 < x_{m,n}(t) \leq M, \quad \frac{B_1}{m} \leq x'_{m,n}(t) \leq M, \quad \text{for } t \in [0, n], \quad (3.9)$$

and  $x_{m,n}$  satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} x'' + \phi(t)f(t, x, x') &= 0, \quad 0 < t < n, \quad t \neq t_k, \\ \Delta x'(t_k) &= b_k x'(t_k), \quad \Delta x(t_k) = a_k x(t_k), \quad k = 1, 2, \dots \\ x(0) &= \alpha x(\eta), \quad x'(n) = \frac{1}{m}. \end{aligned}$$

Now (H<sub>5</sub>) guarantees the existence of a function  $\psi_M(t)$  continuous on  $[0, +\infty)$  and positive on  $(0, +\infty)$ , and a constant  $\gamma, 0 \leq \gamma < 1$  with  $f(t, x_{m,n}(t), x'_{m,n}(t)) \geq \psi_M(t)(x'_{m,n}(t))^\gamma$  for  $(t, x_{m,n}(t), x'_{m,n}(t)) \in [0, n] \times [0, M]^2$ . From

$$-x''_{m,n}(t) = \phi(t)f(t, x_{m,n}(t), x'_{m,n}(t)) \geq \phi(t)\psi_M(t)(x'_{m,n}(t))^\gamma, \quad t \in [0, n],$$

and  $x'_{m,n}(t_k^+) = (1 + b_k)x'_{m,n}(t_k)$ ,  $x_{m,n}(t_k^+) = (1 + a_k)x_{m,n}(t_k)$ , we have

$$x'_{m,n}(t) \geq \left( (1 - \gamma) \int_t^n \prod_{t < t_k \leq s} (1 + b_k)^{\gamma-1} \psi_M(s) \phi(s) ds \right)^{1/(1-\gamma)}, \quad t \in [0, n],$$

and

$$x_{m,n}(t) \geq \int_0^t \prod_{s < t_k < t} (1 + a_k) \left( (1 - \gamma) \int_s^n \prod_{s < t_k \leq \tau} (1 + b_k)^{\gamma-1} \psi_M(\tau) \phi(\tau) d\tau \right)^{1/(1-\gamma)} ds, \quad t \in [0, n].$$

It is easy to see that  $\{x_{m,n}\}$ ,  $m \in \{n_0, n_0 + 1, \dots\}$  is a bounded, quasiequicontinuous family on  $[0, n]$ ; Lemma 2.1 guarantees the existence of a subsequence  $N^0$  of  $\{n_0, n_0 + 1, \dots\}$  and a function  $x_n \in PC^1[0, n]$  with  $x_{m,n}$  converging uniformly on  $[0, n]$  to  $x_n$  as  $m \rightarrow +\infty$  through  $N^0$  and

$$0 \leq x_n(t) \leq M, \quad 0 \leq x'_n(t) \leq M, \quad (3.10)$$

$$x_n(t) \geq \int_0^t \prod_{s < t_k < t} (1 + a_k) \left( (1 - \gamma) \int_s^n \prod_{s < t_k \leq \tau} (1 + b_k)^{\gamma-1} \psi_M(\tau) \phi(\tau) d\tau \right)^{1/(1-\gamma)} ds, \quad (3.11)$$

and  $x_n(t)$  is a solution of (3.1). Also, from (3.10) and  $(H_3)$ , we have

$$0 \leq -x_n''(t) \leq \phi(t)\omega(M), \quad \text{for } t \in [0, n].$$

In addition we have

$$x_n'(t) \leq \omega(M) \int_t^n \prod_{t < t_k \leq s} (1 + b_k^-)^{-1} \phi(s) ds.$$

To show that (1.1) has solutions, we will apply a diagonalization argument. Let

$$y_n(t) = \begin{cases} x_n(t), & t \in [0, n] \\ x_n(n), & t \in [n, \infty). \end{cases}$$

Then by (3.10) we have  $0 < y_n(t) \leq M$ ,  $0 < y_n'(t) \leq M$ . And for  $t, s \in (t_k, t_{k+1}]$  it is to see that

$$|y_n'(t) - y_n'(s)| \leq \omega(M) \left| \int_s^t \phi(\tau) d\tau \right|.$$

In addition

$$y_n'(t) \leq \omega(M) \int_t^\infty \prod_{t < t_k \leq s} (1 + b_k^-)^{-1} \phi(s) ds,$$

and

$$y_n(t) \geq e_l(t), \quad \text{for } t \in [0, [\eta] + l], \quad (3.12)$$

where  $l$  is any positive integer with  $[\eta] + l \leq n$ ,  $e_l$  denoted by

$$e_l(t) = \int_0^t \prod_{s < t_k < t} (1 + a_k) \left( (1 - \gamma) \int_s^{[\eta]+l} \prod_{s < t_k \leq \tau} (1 + b_k)^{\gamma-1} \psi_M(\tau) \phi(\tau) d\tau \right)^{1/(1-\gamma)} ds.$$

Also notice for  $n \in N \setminus \{0\}$  that

$$y_n(t) \geq e_1(t), \quad \text{for } t \in [0, [\eta] + 1]. \quad (3.13)$$

**Lemma 2.1** guarantees the existence of a subsequence  $N^1$  of  $N \setminus \{0\}$  and a function  $z_1 \in PC^1[0, [\eta] + 1]$  with  $y_n$  converging uniformly on  $[0, 1]$  to  $z_1$  as  $n \rightarrow +\infty$  through  $N^1$ . Also from (3.13),  $z_1(t) \geq e_1(t)$  for  $t \in [0, [\eta] + 1]$ .

Now notice from (3.12) that for  $n \in N^1 \setminus \{[\eta] + 1\}$ ,

$$y_n(t) \geq e_2(t) \quad \text{for } t \in [0, [\eta] + 2].$$

**Lemma 2.1** guarantees the existence of a subsequence  $N^2$  of  $N^1 \setminus \{[\eta] + 1\}$  and a function  $z_2 \in PC^1[0, [\eta] + 2]$  with  $y_n$  converging uniformly on  $[0, [\eta] + 2]$  to  $z_2$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  through  $N^2$ . Also  $z_2(t) \geq e_2(t)$  for  $t \in [0, [\eta] + 2]$  and  $z_2 = z_1$  on  $[0, [\eta] + 1]$ . Proceed inductively to obtain for  $k = 1, 2, \dots$  a subsequence  $N^k$  of  $N^{k-1} \setminus \{[\eta] + k - 1\}$  and a function  $z_k \in PC^1[0, [\eta] + k]$  with  $y_n$  converging uniformly on  $[0, [\eta] + k]$  to  $z_k$  as  $n \rightarrow +\infty$  through  $N^k$ . Also  $z_k(t) \geq e_k(t)$  for  $t \in [0, [\eta] + k]$  and  $z_k = z_{k-1}$  on  $[0, [\eta] + k - 1]$ .

Define a function  $x$  as follows: Fix  $t \in [0, +\infty)$  and let  $k \in N \setminus \{0\}$  with  $t \leq [\eta] + k$ . Define  $x(t) = z_k(t)$ . Note that  $z$  is well defined and  $x(t) = z_k(t) > 0$ .

Fix  $t \in [0, +\infty)$  and choose  $[\eta] + k \geq t$ . Then for  $n \in N^k$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} y_n(t) &= \left[ \frac{\alpha\eta}{1-\alpha} + t \right] y_n'([\eta] + k) + \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha} \int_0^\eta \int_s^{[\eta]+k} \phi(\tau) f(\tau, y_n(\tau), y_n'(\tau)) d\tau ds \\ &\quad - \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha} \sum_{0 < t_k < [\eta]+k} b_k y_n'(t_k) \eta + \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha} \left[ \sum_{0 < t_i \leq \eta} b_i y_n'(t_i) (\eta - t_i) + \sum_{0 < t_i < \eta} a_i y_n(t_i) \right] \\ &\quad + \int_0^t \int_s^{[\eta]+k} \phi(\tau) f(\tau, y_n(\tau), y_n'(\tau)) d\tau ds - \sum_{0 < t_i < [\eta]+k} b_i y_n'(t_i) t + \sum_{0 < t_i \leq t} b_i y_n'(t_i) (t - t_i) + \sum_{0 < t_i < t} a_i y_n(t_i). \end{aligned}$$

Letting  $n \rightarrow +\infty$  through  $N^k$  (notice that  $n \geq [\eta] + k \geq t$ ) we have

$$\begin{aligned} z_k(t) &= \left[ \frac{\alpha\eta}{1-\alpha} + t \right] z_k'([\eta] + k) + \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha} \int_0^\eta \int_s^{[\eta]+k} \phi(\tau) f(\tau, z_k(\tau), z_k'(\tau)) d\tau ds \\ &\quad - \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha} \sum_{0 < t_k < [\eta]+k} b_k z_k'(t_k) \eta + \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha} \left[ \sum_{0 < t_i \leq \eta} b_i z_k'(t_i) (\eta - t_i) + \sum_{0 < t_i < \eta} a_i z_k(t_i) \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$+ \int_0^t \int_s^{[\eta]+k} \phi(\tau) f(\tau, z_k(\tau), z'_k(\tau)) d\tau ds - \sum_{0 < t_i < [\eta]+k} b_i z'_k(t_i) t + \sum_{0 < t_i \leq t} b_i z'_k(t_i) (t - t_i) + \sum_{0 < t_i < t} a_i z_k(t_i).$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) = & \left[ \frac{\alpha\eta}{1-\alpha} + t \right] x'([\eta] + k) + \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha} \int_0^\eta \int_s^{[\eta]+k} \phi(\tau) f(\tau, x(\tau), x'(\tau)) d\tau ds \\ & - \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha} \sum_{0 < t_k < [\eta]+k} b_k x'(t_k) \eta + \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha} \left[ \sum_{0 < t_i \leq \eta} b_i x'(t_i) (\eta - t_i) + \sum_{0 < t_i < \eta} a_i x(t_i) \right] \\ & + \int_0^t \int_s^{[\eta]+k} \phi(\tau) f(\tau, x(\tau), x'(\tau)) d\tau ds - \sum_{0 < t_i < [\eta]+k} b_i x'(t_i) t + \sum_{0 < t_i \leq t} b_i x'(t_i) (t - t_i) + \sum_{0 < t_i < t} a_i x(t_i). \end{aligned}$$

Consequently  $x \in PC^2[0, +\infty)$  with  $x'' + \phi(t)f(t, x, x') = 0$  for  $0 < t < \infty$ , and  $x(0) = \alpha x(\eta)$ ,  $x'(+\infty) = 0$ . Hence  $x$  is a solution of (1.1), which completes the proof.  $\square$

#### 4. An example

Consider the boundary value problem

$$\begin{cases} x''(t) + \phi(t) \left( \ln(1 + |x|) + e^{-t} \left( 1 + x^{\frac{1}{5}} x'^{\frac{1}{5}} \right) \right) = 0, & 0 < t < +\infty, t \neq t_k, \\ \Delta x'(t_k) = b_k x'(t_k), & \Delta x(t_k) = a_k x(t_k), & k = 1, 2, \dots, \\ x(0) = \frac{1}{2} x(5), & x'(+\infty) = 0, \end{cases} \quad (4.1)$$

where  $\phi(t) = e^{-\beta t}$ ,  $\beta > 0$ ,  $a_k = -\frac{1}{k+1}$ ,  $b_k = \frac{1}{2^k}$ . By computation we have

$$\begin{aligned} Q_\infty &= \int_0^{+\infty} \prod_{0 < t_k < s} (1 + b_k^-)^{-1} \phi(s) ds = \frac{1}{\beta}, & R_\infty &= \int_0^{+\infty} s \phi(s) ds = \frac{1}{\beta^2}, \\ A &= \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} (1 + a_k^+) = 1 < 2, & B &= \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} (1 + b_k^-)^{-1} = 1, & B_1 &= \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} (1 + b_k^+)^{-1} = \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{2^k} \right)^{-1} < +\infty. \end{aligned}$$

Letting

$$\omega(r) = \ln(1 + r) + \left( 1 + r^{\frac{1}{5}} \right) r^{\frac{1}{5}}, \quad r \in [0, +\infty),$$

$$\psi_H(t) = \phi(t) e^{-t}, \quad t \in [0, +\infty), H > 0,$$

it follows that  $\omega \geq 0$  is continuous and nondecreasing on  $[0, +\infty)$ ,  $\psi_H(t) \geq 0$  is continuous on  $[0, +\infty)$ , and for  $(t, u, v) \in [0, +\infty) \times [0, +\infty) \times [0, +\infty)$ ,

$$f(t, u, v) \leq \omega(\max\{u, v\}), \quad f(t, u, v) \geq \psi_H(t) v^{\frac{1}{5}},$$

and

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{r}{\left( \ln(1 + r) + \left( 1 + r^{\frac{1}{5}} \right) r^{\frac{1}{5}} \right) \max \left\{ Q_\infty, \frac{\alpha A^2 B}{1-\alpha A} \int_0^\eta s \phi(s) ds + ABR_\infty \right\}} = +\infty.$$

Hence the conditions (H<sub>1</sub>)–(H<sub>5</sub>) of Theorem 3.1 hold, and so (4.1) has solutions  $x \in PC^1[0, +\infty) \cap PC^2(0, +\infty)$  with  $x > 0$  on  $(0, +\infty)$ .

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